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BARNE & THORNBURG LLP

11 South Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
(317) 236-1313  
(317) 231-7433 Fax

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: 1725  
Confirmation No.: 3919  
Application No.: 10/761,953  
Invention: CASTING STEEL STRIP  
Applicant: Blejde et al.  
Filed: January 21, 2004  
Attorney  
Docket: 29685-73586  
Examiner: Len Tran

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on March 8, 2005

E. W. Beard  
(Signature)

Eric W. Beard  
(Printed Name)

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT RESPONSE**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby respond to the Office Action of March 7, 2005. Claims 1-26 still remaining pending in the case, all original claims presented. Claims 27-37 have been withdrawn without prejudice in response to a request for election and restriction.

Applicants believe this response is timely filed and no fee is required. However, if a fee for filing this Response is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with reference to 29685-73586.